

## Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 EB-11 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 FAA-00

AID-20 M-03 SY-10 USSS-00 NIC-01 EUR-25 RSR-01 /187 W

----- 099214

R 311302Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3464

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

"AMEMBASSY JIDDA 5615

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 8975

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS XF

SUBJECT: JAL HIJACKING - FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

1. PFLP ISSUED OFFICIAL STATEMENT LATE JULY 30 DENYING THAT IT HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH JAL HIJACKING. THIS COMPLEMENTED BY INTERVIEW IN INDEPENDENT, LARGE-CIRCULATION DAILY AN NAHAR IN WHICH PFLP SPOKESMAN, BASSAM ABUL SHARUL, ALSO DENIED PFLP PARTICIPATION. SPOKESMAN ACCUSED UNIDENTIFIED "CERTAIN QUARTERS" IN LEBANON OF DELIBERATELY SPREADING RUMOR ABOUT PFLP INVOLVEMENT IN ORDER "UNDERMINING ALLIANCE BETWEEN PFLP AND FATAH". OFFICIAL STATEMENT SAID THAT IMPERIALIST, ZIONIST AND ARAB REACTIONARY INTELLIGENCE ORGANS" TRYING TO PIN OPERATION ON PFLP. SPOKESMAN SAID THATWHILE "WE HAVE  
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NOT STOPPED OUR FOREIGN OPERATIONS" THE PFLP HAS "SUSPENDED"

HIJACKING "TEMPORARILY BUT NOT FOREVER". HE ALSO DENIED REPORTS OF SPLIT BETWEEN HABBASH AND NUMBER TWO MAN WADDI HADDAD.

2. DESPITE DENIALS, GOL OFFICIALS CONTINUE BELIEVE THAT PFLP INVOLVED AND WADDI HADDAD WAS RUNNING OPERATION WHICH FAILED BECAUSE OF COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS. THEY UNDERTAIN AS TO CAUSE OF FAILURE, BELIEVING THAT NON-DELIVERY OF MESSAGE HERE MAY HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SURETE TELLS US THAT MESSAGE ORIGINATED IN BAHRAIN NOT RPT NOT IN BEIRUT AND GOL INCLINED ACCEPT ITS LEGITIMACY ALTHOUGH NOT AT ALL CERTAIN AS TO ITS REAL MEANING BECAUSE OF OBVIOUS USE OF CODE WORDS AND PHRASES.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE TOLD BY RELIABLE JOURNALISTS THAT FATAH REPS WERE ACTIVE ALMOST IMMEDIATELY AFTER NEWS OF HIJACKING, SPREADING REPORT THAT IT IS WORK OF PFLP. THIS FITS NICELY WITH GOL THESIS THAT PFLP UNDERTOOK OPERATION IN ORDER OBTAIN FUNDS FOR DEPLETED TREASURY WHICH HAD TO BE REPLENISHED IF PFLP TO AVOID SUCCUMBING TO PRESSURES FROM FATAH FOR FULL MERGER AND SUBSEQUENT LOSS OF PFLP INDEPENDENCE.  
BUFFUM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 JUL 1973  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JAL HIJACKING - FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS  
**TAGS:** PINS, XF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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